

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 256866

43

ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66605

DRAFTED BY: ARA/LA/PLC:JMARTIN

APPROVED BY: ARA/LA/PLC:RMELTON

----- 061453

P 211557Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 256866

PLS PASS TO RICHARD BLOOMFIELD

FOLLOWING REPEAT MANAGUA 4507 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
INFO GUATEMALA SAN JOSE SAN SALVADOR TEGUCIGALPA
NOVEMBER 20TH:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 4507

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NU

SUBJ: REACTION TO QUITO MEETING

SUMMARY: NICARAGUA REACTION TO QUITO MEETING HAS BEEN
SUBDUED, REFLECTING DIFFICULTY OF GETTING FIRM GRASP ON
INCONCLUSIVE RESULTS. FOREIGN MINISTER WAS DISPASSIONATE ABOUT
MEETING IN PRESS CONFERENCE AND HYPER-REALISTIC IN PRIVATE.

1. THE INCONCLUSIVE NATURE OF THE QUITO MEETING APPEARS TO
HAVE IMPEDED LOCAL ATTITUDES TOWARD THE MEETING FROM SIGNIFICANTLY
HARDENING OR POLARIZING. WHILE THE MEDIA HAS BEEN GIVING FULL
COVERAGE TO THE CRIES OF ANGUISH AND GLOOM EMANATING FROM OTHER
LATIN AMERICAN CAPITALS. WE FAIL TO DETECT ANY GENUINELY
SIMILAR SENTIMENTS AMONG INFORMED NICARAGUANS.

2. THE OPPOSITION, REPRESENTED BY LA PRENSA, HAS ATTEMPTED,
ALBEIT HALF-HEARTEDLY, TO RIDICULE THE GON'S ABSTENTIONIST VOTE,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 256866

TERMING IT UNIMAGINATIVE AND A MERE APING OF THE U.S. HOWEVER,

THE PAPER REPORTED FOREIGN MINISTER MONTIEL'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE SUBJECT ALMOST STRAIGHT, FURTHER REFLECTING THE DIFFICULTY OF GETTING A POLITICALLY USEFUL ANGLE ON THE MEETING.

3. THE ONLY VIGOROUS OPINION ON EITHER SIDE THUS FAR HAS APPEARED IN THE SOMOZA-OWNED NOVEOADES WHERE A REGULAR COLUMNIST PRAISED THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE FOR REJECTING THE SPREAD OF CASTROISM IN THE HEMISPHERE. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED WERE PRESUMABLY COLORED BY THE FACT THAT THE WRITER IS A CUBAN EXILE.

4. IN LINE WITH THE GENERALLY LOW-KEY REACTION TO THE MEETING, FOREIGN MINISTER MONTIEL IN HIS NOVEMBER 16 PRESS CONFERENCE WAS DISPASSIONATE AND DIDACTIC IN HIS TREATMENT OF THE MEETING. HE SAID THAT NICARAGUA HAD NOTHING AGAINST CUBA PERSONALLY OR IDEOLOGICALLY, SINCE IT HAD NOT BEEN THE OBJECT OF SERIOUS CUBAN INTERVENTION FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND INDEED NICARAGUA APPRECIATED CUBA'S ASSISTANCE AT THE TIME OF THE 1972 EARTHQUAKE. NICARAGUA'S ABSTENTIONIST POSITION WAS BASED SOLIDLY UPON A DESIRE TO SEE THAT THE TERMS OF THE RIO TREATY REGARDING THE REPEAL OF SANCTIONS WERE CARRIED OUT CORRECTLY. HE DENIED THAT THE U.S. HAD APPLIED ANY PRESSURE ON NICARAGUA. HE ALSO REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE ASSESSMENT THAT THE CONFERENCE RESULTS WERE A TRIUMPH FOR CUBA, ARGUING THAT THE MEETING COULD JUST AS WELL BE CONSIDERED A SUCCESS FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE CONTINUED DETERMINATION OF THE OAS TO PREVENT CUBAN INTERVENTION. FINALLY, MONTIEL AVERRED THAT ALTHOUGH NATIONS COULD OBVIOUSLY DO WHAT THEY PLEASED REGARDING CUBA DESPITE THE OAS, NICARAGUA WOULD ALWAYS RESPECT OAS RESOLUTIONS UNTIL THEY WERE LEGALLY ALTERED OR THE OAS ITSELF DISAPPEARED. NICARAGUA, HE SAID, WILL NOT HAVE ANY RELATIONS WITH CUBA UNTIL THAT TIME.

5. IN A PRIVATE CHAT WITH CHARGE A FEW DAYS LATER, MONTIEL WAS ALMOST NONCHALANT TOWARD WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED AT QUITO AND ITS REMIFICATIONS. WITH A SHRUG OF HIS SHOULDERS, MONTIEL CLAIMED THAT MEETING PROVED NOTHING ABOUT STRENGTH OF INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM WHICH WAS NOT KNOWN ALREADY. THERE ARE IDEOLOGICALLY DIVISIVE ISSUES ON WHICH CONSENSUS IS USUALLY IMPOSSIBLE. THE QUITO MEETING NEITHER SHARPENED NOR AMELIORATED THIS PROBLEM; IT MERELY RATIFIED IT. REGARDING RESTRUCTURING THE OAS, MONTIEL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 256866

STATED THAT THE TYPE OF REORGANIZATION CURRENTLY BEING BRUITED ABOUT CONCERNED ITSELF MORE WITH THE COSMETICS OF PATCHING UP EMBARRASSING DIFFERENCES AMONG THE MEMBERS THAN WITH MAKING THE ORGANIZATION MORE EFFECTIVE. HE CONCLUDED THAT THE OAS IS IMPOTENT IN ANY MATTER WHERE STRONG POLITICAL DIFFERENCES EXIST AND IS LIKELY TO REMAIN SO. WARNER

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE256866
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARA/LA/PLC:JMARTIN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740337-0818
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741123/aaaaatfh.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTION TO QUITO MEETING SUMMARY: NICARAGUA REACTION TO QUITO MEETING HAS BEEN
TAGS: PFOR, NU, QUITO
To: BRASILIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005